ACRONYMS, ABBREVIATIONS, AND SPECIAL TERMS

Acre-feet Unit of measure used to express volume. One Acre-foot is defined as the volume

occupied over a one-acre area to a depth of one foot. One acre-foot is equal to 43,560

cubic feet as well as to 325,850 gallons.

AF Acre-feet

Army Corps of Engineers U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

BMPs Best management practices

Capacity The measure of water capable of flowing through a channel, measured in cubic feet per

second (cfs). Also the measure of how much water a stormwater detention facility

holds; this capacity is usually measured in acre-feet.

CEQA California Environmental Quality Act

cfs Cubic feet per second

Channel An open conveyance of surface stormwater having a bottom and sides in a linear

configuration. Channels can be natural or man-made. Channels have levees or dikes along their sides to build up their depth. Constructed channels can be plain earth, landscaped, or lined with concrete, stone, or any other hard surface to resist erosion

and scour.

County County of Los Angeles

Cubic feet per second Unit of measure used to quantify flow. A cubic foot is equivalent to 7.5 gallons of

water. Thus, 1 cfs is equal to 7.5 gallons of water passing by you every second.

CY Cubic yards

Dam A structure built across a river or stream that limits the amount of water and sediment

moving downstream. Dams help reduce the risk of flooding for downstream

communities by allowing controlled releases.

DDE Design Debris Event

Debris basin A type of facility that is typically located at the mouths of canyons and manage the risk

of flooding due to flood water, floatable debris, sediment, boulders, and debris flows

that flow from canyons during storms.

Design Debris Event A Design Debris Event is defined as the quantity of sediment that would be produced

by the specific watershed given all the following two conditions had been met: (1) the watershed had been burned four years before, and (2) the watershed was fully saturated when it experienced 24 hours of the type of rain that would be experienced during a 50-year rain event. Design Debris Events are watershed-specific. The term is

typically abbreviated as DDE.

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

Drainage Area The area (acres, square miles, etc.) from which water is carried off by a drainage

system.

East Area East Flood Maintenance Area

EIR Environmental Impact Report

FAST Flow assisted sediment transport. The technique is now referred to as sediment

flushing.

Flood A flood is commonly interpreted as the temporary overflow of lands not normally

covered by water, but which are used or usable by man when not inundated.

Flood Control District Los Angeles County Flood Control District

Flood Risk Management Various activities and regulations that help reduce or prevent damages caused by

flooding. Typical flood risk management activities include structural measures such as reservoirs, debris basins, drainage channels, levees, and bank stabilization; acquisition of flood-prone land; flood insurance programs and studies; river and basin management plans; public education programs; and flood warning and emergency

preparedness activities.

FMD The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works' Flood Maintenance Division

HDPE High-density polyethylene

Los Angeles County Drainage Area

Los Angeles County Flood

Control District

Special district created by the California State Legislature in 1915 as a result of

catastrophic floods in the County of Los Angeles.

MCY Million cubic yards

MWD Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

NEPA National Environmental Policy Act

OHV Off-highway vehicle

Outlet Structure A hydraulic structure placed at the outlet of a channel, spillway, pipe, etc., for the

purpose of dissipating energy and providing a transition to the channel or pipe

downstream.

Public Works The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

Reservoir

Place behind a dam where flows are captured in order to (1) reduce the risk of flooding for downstream communities and (2) store water for groundwater recharge. In this Strategic Plan, reservoirs are categorized into large and small reservoirs.

Large Reservoirs: Reservoirs that are larger than some of the other reservoirs in respect to the size of the reservoir itself as well as the associated dam, drainage area, and sediment accumulation in the reservoir. This category includes Big Tujunga, Cogswell, Devil's Gate, Morris, Pacoima, Puddingstone, San Dimas, San Gabriel, and Santa Anita Reservoirs. All the large reservoirs except for Devil's Gate Reservoir are operated with a pool of water, that is, some water is typically found in them year-round.

Small Reservoirs: These reservoirs are not only characterized by the smaller size of the reservoir, the associated dam, drainage area, and amount of sediment accumulated in the reservoir, but also limited blasé flows during the dry season. This category included Big Dalton, Eaton, Live Oak, Puddingstone Diversion, and Thompson Creek Reservoirs.

Runoff

Surface water resulting from rainfall or snowmelt that flows overland to streams, usually measured in acre-feet. Volume of runoff is frequently given in terms of inches of depth over the drainage area. One inch of runoff from one square mile equals 53.33 acre-feet.

Sediment

Soil particles, sand, and minerals washed from the land into aquatic systems as a result of natural and human activities.

Sediment Placement Sites Sites developed by the Flood Control District throughout the County of Los Angeles to be strategically filled with sediment resulting from the cleanout of its facilities. Typically, sediment from the Flood Control District debris basins, reservoirs, and spreading facilities has been permanently placed at the sediment placement cites.

South Area South Flood Maintenance Area

Spillway An outlet pipe or channel serving to discharge water from a dam, ditch, gutter, or

basin.

Sediment Placement Site **SPS**

Stakeholder A person or organized group that has a defined interest in the outcome of a project.

Storm Season October 15th to April 15th

Strategic Plan Sediment Management Strategic Plan

Tributary A stream that contributes its water to another stream or body of water.

Viewshed The area that is visible by human eyes from a specific point

Vulcan **Vulcan Materials Company**

Water Year October 1st to September 30th

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

Watercourse Any minor or major lake, river, creek, stream, wash, arroyo, channel, or other

topographic feature on or over which waters flow at least periodically. Watercourse includes specifically designated areas in which substantial flood damage may occur.

Watershed An area from which water drains into a lake, stream, or other body of water. A

watershed is also often referred to as a basin, with the basin boundary defined by a

high ridge or divide, and with a lake or river located at the lower point.

West Area West Flood Maintenance Area

West Fork West Fork of the San Gabriel River

WMD The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works' Watershed Management

Division

WRD The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works' Water Resources Division

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